

## United States Department of the Interior

## National Park Service

Everglades National Park and Dry Tortugas National Park 40001 State Road 9336 Homestead, Fl. 3303

IN REPLY REFER TO 191A-L7615

Dear Friends of Everglades National Park:

Enclosed is an Environmental Assessment that details the National Park Service proposal to improve the wastewater treatment and effluent disposal facilities at Flamingo District, Everglades National Park, Monroe County, Florida.

Two alternatives are discussed.

- 1) The no action alternative which would maintain the status quo of the present wastewater treatment system that serves the Flamingo developed area; and,
- 2) The preferred alternative in which the National Park Service proposes the upgrading and modification of the existing wastewater treatment plant and the associated collection/disposal systems along with the continued use of Eco Pond for effluent disposal. This rehabilitation project would be designed to meet present and future State of Florida wastewater standards.

Two public workshops will be held on February 10, 2003. The first will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Button Patio in the Flamingo Lodge. The second will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Florida City Council Chambers, 404 West Palm Drive, Florida City. Members of the public are encouraged to attend at any time during either of the two-hour meetings. The workshop format will include informal interaction, exhibits, and opportunities to make written and verbal comments. No presentations are scheduled. Park staff will be on hand to discuss the EA and answer questions.

We are providing this document for public review and comment. The public comment period closes on February 24, 2003. If you wish to comment on the environmental assessment, you may mail comments to the name and address below. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Please address your comments to: Superintendent, Everglades National Park 40001 State Road 9336 Homestead, Florida 33034-6733

Attn: Project 191A

Maureen Finnerty Superintendent

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Enclosure